UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

3/7/47
No. 232

FARM NEWS PROGRAM

SECRETARY OUTLINES
EGG SUPPORT POLICY - The poultry industry's "basic market" remains at home, with exports a sideline at best in the view of Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson. Recently outlining how the price of eggs needs to be supported without encouraging the production of surpluses, the Secretary said:

"First, we will support a national average egg price of 90 percent of parity. Second, we will do this through the purchase of dried and frozen eggs."

Two reasons for putting major emphasis on dried and frozen eggs are: (1) The Government stands a good chance of finding a market for them abroad; (2) if they are not all exported they can still be handled in such a way as not to depress the price of shell eggs during periods of surplus production.

Poultrymen face the problem of production outrunning demand, Secretary Anderson said, and operations should be adjusted to the new situation. "The poultry industry has two more years of price supports to protect them while they put their house in order. If they move without delay, the industry should face a long period of prosperity."

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BEANS GO ABROAD - Emergency allocations of 220,000 hundred-pound bags of dry edible beans have been made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for countries where food remains severely short. Italy will receive 88,000 bags; the United Kingdom, 66,000 bags; Austria 44,000 bags; and Greece, 22,000 bags. These allocations are in addition to those previously announced. Domestic consumption of dry edible beans is below normal, Department officials said.

(MORE)

1946 WHEAT EXPORTS APPROACHING WIND-UP - Export allocations of 1.5 million long tons of grains - almost 58 million bushels - have been set for April by the Department of Agriculture. The exports will consist of: Wheat, 18,741,000 bushels; flour (wheat equivalent), 16,053,000 bushels; corn, 19,600,000 bushels; grain sorghums, 2,160,000 bushels; barley, 1,120,000 bushels.

During May and June, export emphasis will be mainly on corn and other grains. Flour exports will continue, but no further 1946-crop wheat allocations are expected until final reappraisal of total wheat supplies is made. Since July 1 of last year, USDA has bought about 153 million bushels of wheat for export, in addition to 30 million bushels owned on June 30, 1946.

Exports of 1947 crop wheat are planned as soon as early harvests are completed in the Southern Great Plains. If the season is as early as it was last year, some of the crop could move in June. While much of the flour, corn, and other grains for export will be handled directly through commercial trade channels, the Department's purchases will be continued. Canada and Argentina are expected to increase their exports of wheat during May and June.

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EXPERTS FOR EXPORTS - A number of the technical and advisory services initiated by UNRRA to increase food production in war-devasted lands will continue under the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. UNRRA is turning over a portion of its agricultural rehabilitation functions and personnel to FAO. Funds have been provided through reducing rehabilitation supplies with the approval of nations preferring expert help to material assistance.

(MORE)

TILLABLE LAND IN U.S.
STEADILY DECLINING - "Nutritionists estimate that about three acres of good cropland are required to furnish an adequate diet for each human being under normal conditions. Yet, the harvested acreage per capita in the United States has steadily declined from 3.3 in 1919 to 2.4 acres in 1946", says C. V. Hemphill, State Director of the Production and Marketing Administration. "True, our population has been steadily increasing, but the chief reason why our productive capacity shows a decline is because yearly we are losing from 500,000 to 1,000,000 acres of plowable land, until at the present time we have only about 315,000,000 acres total as compared with approximately 370,000,000 we started out with. That's why", Hemphill said, "we continue to preach conservation." As applied to agriculture, conservation means methods of cropping and handling soils and water which protect the soil from erosion, leeching, depletion from plant food and detrimental changes in its physical textures, Hemphill explained. Conservation means making maximum use of available water and restoring fertility to soils already depleted.

The Agricultural Conservation Program aims to stop needless destruction of our soil and water resources and to correct, insofar as possible, damage already done to soil resources. While the task must largely be performed by individual farmers and ranchers, the responsibility rests with the nation as a whole to see that the job is done. Congress recognizes the importance of agricultural conservation, and has made available a limited amount of money to assist individual operators in carrying out needed conservation work. It has established soil and water conservation on the individual farms and ranches as a joint responsibility of the operator and the nation.

The Agricultural Conservation Program is a Government-farmer partnership in maintaining and improving soil and water resources with each sharing the costs and the benefits. Hemphill urged each and every farmer in the state to become a part of this partnership during the national sign-up campaign scheduled to begin within a few weeks. "The day of maintaining and improving each farm and ranch is at hand," he says, "unless we are to ignore the lesson in the ruins of other civilizations and evident in many lands today. The day of wearing out one farm and moving to another is past. We have discovered that even this nation's resources are limited, and it's high time that we take our conservation more seriously in order to avoid further destruction of one of our most precious resources---our soil."

FARM MISSIONS REPORT
ON CHINA, PHILIPPINES - Greater farm production and improved standards among rural people are major needs in China and the Philippines, report two agricultural missions sponsored by the U. S. Departments of State and Agriculture. Agricultural technicians of this country and of China and the Philippines spent 4 months last year conducting on-the-scene surveys of immediate and urgent farm problems and planning long-term programs for the agricultural betterment of the two countries. The U. S. sections of the missions returned last November.

Specific recommendations by the missions to achieve the desired objectives deal with (1) measures designed to increase the per capita production of farmers, and (2) steps which should be taken if the farmer himself is to benefit by such improvements. The missions also report that increased use of chemical fertilizer and improved seed, more scientific methods of disease and pest control, improvement of tenancy conditions, marketing organization and better credit facilities are all essential to the improvement of agricultural living levels in China and the Philippines.

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PLENTIFUL FOODS - Foods in plentiful supply for March include potatoes, eggs, broilers, fresh grapefruit and oranges, canned citrus juices and grapefruit segments, and peanut butter. Also in the abundant list are heavy tom turkeys weighing from 24 to 30 pounds.

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STORY ON ACP (Released in Valencia County) - The attached story, prepared and released in Valencia County, appeared on the front page of the Belen Bulletin, Belen, New Mexico, February 27. Other counties might use this as an example in preparing a similar story with local information on ACP. Some editors may wish to use such a release as a feature story in one of their weekly agricultural news sheets. Suggest this be discussed with editors.

(MORE)

FARM NEWS SHORTS

Supplies of dairy products for U.S. civilians in 1947 may be about the same as in 1946, but a larger population will mean slightly reduced consumption per person.

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In a two-way program, USDA bought a total of 755,386 gallons of concentrated orange juice from surplus-ridden Florida citrus producers under a provision of the National School Lunch Act.

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Hog slaughter for the week ended February 22 was estimated at 950,000 head - 10 percent below the 1,058,000 slaughtered the week before, and 3 percent below the same week in 1946.

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Factory and warehouse stocks of fats and oils totaled 1,264 million pounds on January 1, 1947 - 30 percent less than in 1946 and about 40 percent under the 1937-41 average for January 1. Stocks of the four edible oils (soybean, cottonseed, corn, and peanut) were the smallest for that date since 1926.

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The Cuban sugar crop is estimated at about 5.75 million short tons, up 30 percent from the 1946 crop. On February 2, 121 mills were grinding cane compared with 101 on the same date last year.

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Cotton exports from Egypt during the 5 months beginning August 1, 1946, were about 565,000 bales (500 pounds gross), compared with 273,000 for a similar period in 1945.

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Total grain supplies in the four principal exporting countries on January 1 were estimated to be 135 million short tons, an increase of about 5 percent compared with last year.

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Netherlands poultry stock in 1947 will be held to present numbers in view of the critical shortage of fodder grains and feedstuffs. Eggs are expected to remain on ration in 1947 at 1½ to 2 per capita weekly.

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The number of workers employed on U.S. farms was six percent higher on February 1, 1947 than a year earlier, USDA figures show.

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800 MAY COOPERATE IN 1947
FARM CONSERVATION PROGRAM

(Released in Valencia County)

Allocated $90,000 for 1947, the Valencia county Agricultural Conservation Association will sign up farmers for the current year between March 1 and May 1, Secretary Ben M. Otero of the county office in Los Lunas, announced this week.

An increase of one-third in the number of farmers cooperating in the program is expected. A total of 607 took part in 1946. The 1947 figure is expected to reach 800.

Committee Met Wednesday

Two conservation practices, construction of fences on range and pasture land and crop rotation, have been added, bringing the total number to 33.

Rates of payment on the fencing practices range from 4 cents per rod per strand on new barbed wire to 40 cents per rod for new woven wire over 42 inches in size. The payments for posts will be 16 cents each. On crop rotation, payment will be made for substituting seedings of new alfalfa for soil depleting crops.

The county committee met in Los Lunas Wednesday to determine the procedure that will be used in setting up two or three priority practices under the 1947 program. Members of the county committee, in addition to Secretary Otero, are Ernest Sichler, Los Lunas farmer, chairman; Silverio Sais, Los Lunas farmer, vice chairman; and Tom Reid, Grants rancher, member.

Payments for 1946 are under way and should be completed by May 1, the ACA office reports. The original allocation of $92,000 was increased to $104,000. This is almost four times the amount paid out the first year the program was in operation in 1936. The payments that year amounted to $29,000.

Estimated county payments to be made for 1946 cooperation reveal the widespread conservation practices in effect.

Payments for application of phosphate, a commercial fertilizer, amounted to $7,755.90 for use of 651,860 pounds on 240 farms in the Rio Grande Valley.

Sulphur--Four farms in the valley; 100,500 pounds. Payments $1608.00.

Sweet Clover Green Manure--Applied to 55 acres in the valley. Payments, $82.50.

Strip-cropping--Forty farms comprising 5,597.2 acres in western part of county. Payments, $2,630.20.

Listing Unprotected Cropland--11,744 acres on 61 farms in western sector. Payments, $3,683.81.

Drainage Ditches--2,830 cubic yards on four valley farms. Payments, $284.00.

Reorganization of Irrigation Systems--9,587 cubic yards on 28 farms. Payments, $847.54.

Land-Leveling--2,302.7 acres on 231 farms (for irrigated lands). Payments, $16,070.56.

Land-Leveling--209 acres on 23 farms (non-irrigated land in valley). Payments, $1,064.50.

Erosion Control Structures--51 structures on 11 ranches, totaling 94,465 cubic yards. Payments, $7,797.07.

Dams & Reservoirs--21 structures on 15 ranches, totaling 65,917 cubic yards. Payments, $11,901.81.

Wells--On four farms, 2,560 lineal feet. Payments, $5,048.35.

The county is divided into four districts identified as A,B,C, and D. Three community committeemen function in each area. These too are elected annually.

District A (East of the Rio Grande)--Miguel M. Salazar, Tome; Fred Landavazo, Adelino; and Ray H. Mitchell, Bosque Farms.

District B (West of the river, in the valley)--Manuel A. Romero, Jarales; Damacio Garcia y Salaz, Los Lunas; and Antonio Baca y Torrez, Belen.

District C (West of the valley to Bluewater line, including Grants)--Joseph F. Nielson, Jr., Bluewater; Nabor Mirabal, Jr., San Rafael; and Benedicto Marquez, Seboyeta.

District D (West of Bluewater to Arizona line; includes Fence Lake, Trechado, El Morro and Ramah)--Thomas J. Dodson, Fence Lake; Andy Moore, Trechado; and Fran Montoya, Atarque.

New Mexico

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

3/14/47
No. 233

FARM PROGRAM NEWS

SUPERPHOSPHATE FOR NEW MEXICO FARMS - According to C. V. Hemphill, Chairman of the State PMA Committee, 1,200 tons of 20% superphosphate are arriving in five southern New Mexico counties to be applied to alfalfa and other soil-building pasture crops in connection with the Agricultural Conservation Program. Mr. Hemphill said that this phosphate is being obtained by the State PMA Committee to relieve the acute shortage which now exists. The net cost of this material to the farmer, he said, is $19.00 per ton. An additional cost of $14.00 per ton is borne by the Government because the phosphate must be applied in accordance with an agricultural conservation practice.

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FARM CHEMICAL SUPPLIES FOR 1947 ON INCREASE - Supplies of some insecticides and fungicides for use in 1947 are increasing, according to the Department of Agriculture.

Rotenone, while still short, will be more plentiful in 1947 than last year. Rotenone-containing roots and the powder ground from them is imported from South America and the Dutch East Indies.

Increased supplies of pyrethrum, principally from west Africa, will be available this year. Produced from a member of the chrysanthemum family, pyrethrum in non-toxic to man but deadly to bugs.

Nicotine, produced from low-grade tobacco leaves and tobacco waste, will probably continue in short supply during 1947.

Commercial demand for coal tar, a DDT ingredient, is largely responsible for the shortage of DDT, but increasing supplies are expected and farmers should be able to fill their needs.

Both lead and arsenic, constituents of lead arsenate, are short. However, calcium arsenate will be more plentiful because the supply of calcium is sufficient.

Fumigant supplies are expected to be adequate in 1947, except for paradichlorobenzene, also a coal-tar product.

Adequate supplies of both copper sulphate and sulphur, which are prominent among the materials used in manufacturing fungicides, will be available for the 1947 crops.

(MORE)

12 PERCENT OF '46 SPUDS BOUGHT IN PRICE SUPPORT - A total of 57 million bushels of potatoes - about 12 percent of our record-breaking 1946 crop - had been removed from regular commercial channels by the Department of Agriculture as of February 6. Removal through price-support operations cost the Government approximately $50 million, or an average of 86 cents a bushel. The 1946-crop surplus over normal requirements is estimated to be between 90 and 100 million bushels.

Although surplus potatoes were offered for export starting last August, substantial orders have been received only recently. Plans now call for exporting around 10 million bushels. Main reason more potatoes have not been shipped abroad is the high cost of handling and shipping compared with wheat and other foods. On a calorie basis, wheat flour is more commercial to export than potatoes delivered free of charge to a U. S. port.

Channels into which the 57 million bushels were diverted include: The School Lunch Program; public institutions; families receiving public welfare; UNRRA, the army; foreign countries; distillation of beverage and industrial alcohol; manufacture of starch; flour, meal, and glucose; and livestock feed.

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POWER OF THE PRESS CAUSES SIGN-UP RUSH - In an Indiana county, Farm Plan sign-up had to be postponed. A new date was set and the story given to the county newspaper editor. For the next ten days, the office was swamped with 1,100 farmers, all there to sign their ACP Farm Plan sheets. The office staff was puzzled. Why the rush?

They checked back on the newspaper story. "Farmers have until the closing date, March 3, to sign Farm Plans," read the story. Actually, the closing date was March 31.

(Note: In _____ County, the last day for signing 1947 Farm Plan sheets is April 30.)

(MORE)

U. S. TO SHARE MEAT, WHEAT WITH BRITAIN - America is going to share some of its generally plentiful meat supply with England. Secretary of Agriculture Anderson made this disclosure recently after a talk in Washington with John Strachey, British food minister. Mr. Anderson said the meat would be shipped this spring to prevent a further cut in Britain's already-low rations. The shipments will include beef but no pork.

The Secretary also disclosed plans to ship wheat to England this summer in order to build up a stockpile before transportation becomes scarce during the winter months. Much of the wheat will be from the southwest part of the country which is close to Gulf of Mexico ports.

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INCOME-OUTGO SPREAD WIDENING FOR FARMERS - Production expenses of farmers are rising faster than the prices farmers receive for their products. Prices paid by farmers for production costs increased 8 percent between January 15 and February 15, while prices received for farm products went up less than one percent, according to the Department of Agriculture.

The prices-paid index on February 15 was at a new all-time record peak, which the prices-received index had dropped 11 points from the all-time high reached last October. As a net result of the changes, farmers on February 15 were receiving 119 percent of parity for all their commodities. This compares with 121 percent of parity on January 15 and 116 percent on February 15, 1946.

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MEAT PRICES TO FARMERS SEEN DROPPING IN 1947 - Farmers will continue to receive high prices for meat animals through the first half of 1947, says the Department of Agriculture, although there will be variation in price changes for kinds and grades of meat. By fall, prices of meat and meat animals in general are expected to decline.

Pork supplies this spring and summer will be less than a year earlier, chiefly because of the reduced 1946 fall pig crop. In addition, storage stocks of pork were low in February which is near the end of the usual into-storage season.

(MORE)

CONSERVATION DEEMED IN PUBLIC'S INTEREST - "As members of the consuming public, we should cooperate with the farmer by bearing part of the cost of maintaining the fertility of the soil," F. J. Sievers, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Amherst, Mass., recently told the annual convention of the National Agricultural Limestone Association at Washington, D. C.

"Through the exploitation of agriculture," Dr. Sievers pointed out, "we have built up a great nation. Agriculture is our most important natural resource....We came to a realization that this fundamental national resource was being rapidly abused to a point where it might soon become a liability, and that if it was to be preserved for posterity, the general public needed to make its responsibility in this respect evident. The need for agricultural conservation under Federal direction came into being during the depression of the Thirties when there were many 'make work' programs being promoted and, unfortunately, it was confused with these in the minds of many....

"Now, after several years of operation under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, when...the sound portion of the program has been strengthened..we are still in danger - because of public misunderstanding - of having the support of this program considered an unnecessary use of public funds. This, in the face of what has been accomplished, seems little short of tragic. Right-thinking people owe it to themselves to become better informed regarding the objectives of this service... We, as a democratic nation, should have the power and sense to step in and protect ourselves against private abuses that interfere with the best interests of the public.

"We enjoy living under a government that affords us an opportunity to participate. Participation should, however, involve more than destructive effort, and every citizen owes it to himself to shed himself of partisan prejudices for the sake of soundness in national procedure."

(MORE)

USDA GIVES REASONS FOR SUGAR CONTROLS - Sugar supplies should continue to be controlled, according to James H. Marshall, Director of the PMA Sugar Branch, in a recent statement before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee. Most important reason for controls is the large disparity between the 6,800,000 tons of sugar estimated to be available in 1947 and the 8,000,000 tons estimated to be required to fill unrationed demands.

Without controls over prices, distribution, and imports and exports, there would be inequitable distribution and run-away prices similar to the price experiences which followed World War I, Marshall stated. In the wild scramble for inadequate supplies, the household user and the small industrial user would be likely to suffer most.

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FARM NEWS SHORTS

Wool owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation will be sold 2 to 3 cents a pound, clean basis, higher the Department of Agriculture has announced, because of a 6 point increase in the parity index.

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A new process for complete recovery of oil -- and of a purer oil -- from cottonseed, has been developed by the Department of Agriculture. The new method also removes the objectionable pigment material in the seed.

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New Mexico

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

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No. 234

FARM PROGRAM NEWS

1947 POTATO SUPPORT PROGRAM DETAILS SET - Growers who want the protection of Government price supports on their 1947 potato crop will be required to establish their eligibility for participation in the program, according to word received in the _____ County Agricultural Conservation Office. The price supports will be provided through purchases, diversion, export, and loans. Details of the program, announced last week by the Department of Agriculture include these conditions:

(1) Growers must comply with 1947 individual farm potato acreage goals set by the county ACA committee;

(2) Price support is restricted to potatoes produced by eligible growers which are not objectionable because of disease, insect infestation, frost, or other damage;

(3) All growers must declare the maximum quantity of potatoes they expect to offer for price support and to pay a nominal service fee on potatoes so declared;

(4) No grower will be eligible who plants potatoes on land officially designated by a State or Federal agency as unfit for potato production because of disease or insect infestation;

(5) Growers who plant less than 3 acres, and therefore have no assigned acreage goal, are required to make their request for price support before June 1, 1947 so that their compliance with the small farm goal may be determined (such goals must not exceed 2.9 acres);

(Cont'd on Page 2)

(6) Growers may be required to enter into written agreements with the Department of Agriculture covering such matters as compliance with acreage goals, withholding from market and disposition of potatoes as directed by the Department, and orderly offerings to the Department by suitable time periods beginning about October 1.

While Government loans will not be the principal means of price support for the late potato crop, loans will be available to growers on much the same basis as for the 1946 crop. Eligible growers may take advantage of the other price-support operations whether or not they obtain such loans. The program will seek to assure fullest price support benefits to eligible growers. The Government is required to support prices of potatoes during 1947 and 1948 at not less than 90 percent of parity.

Price supports on the late 1947 potato crop will be announced soon after July 1, the date for determining the parity base for supports. Price support on the intermediate potato crop in New Mexico for June, July and August is $2.25 per 100 pounds for U. S. No. 1 grade potatoes at country shipping points.

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FOOT-MOUTH DISEASE
CONTROLS ARE MAPPED - Plans are shaping up for putting into effect the cooperative program to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease in Mexico and to prevent its entry into the United States.

A Mexican-United States Agricultural Commission has recommended that a joint office be opened, set up immediately in Mexico City, under the administration of a director -- a Mexican citizen appointed by the Mexican Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock Industry, and a co-director -- a U.S. citizen appointed by the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

A joint administrative board and advisory committees have been proposed. Assurances were given the Commission that every possible assistance would be given the Mexican authorities in locating in the U. S. the supplies and equipment needed in connection with the program.

(MORE)

ACTION NOW HELD VITAL
TO GUARD SOIL WEALTH - A panel of speakers in Chicago discussing agricultural conservation recently concluded that:

American agriculture can't go on absorbing losses caused by soil erosion.

The nation already has lost one-quarter of its arable land and is in the process of losing another quarter.

Sound nutrition based upon sound agriculture is essential to national well-being.

Continued neglect will invite a return of the dust bowl.

The panel of speakers included Dr. H. H. Bennett, SCS chief, Dr. Jonathan Forman of Ohio State University; Walter E. Christenson, editor of the Omaha World-Herald, and Louis Bromfield, author. They spoke before a meeting of the Friends of the Land Society.

"Continued neglect will invite a return of the dust storms," declared Christenson. "It will permit the angry winds and hungry rivers to continue the devastating process of removing the few inches of topsoil in which our civilization has its roots. Conservation, on the other hand, can anchor the soil and rebuild it."

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USDA TO PURCHASE
NONFAT DRY MILK - To protect farmers against a further price decline, the Department of Agriculture has announced that purchases of nonfat dry milk will be made on the open market at 10 cents a pound for spray process and 9 cents for roller process. Both types must be U. S. Extra grade in export containers.

Market prices for the product doubled during the war and early 1947, but declined during February. Prewar prices of nonfat dry milk returned relatively little to farmers for their skim milk. Government purchases will assure an outlet for supplies in excess of needs for established domestic or export uses. The supplies will be available for sale to foreign governments, for foreign relief uses, and for the School Lunch Program. They will also be available for domestic markets if demand is sufficient to use the supplies at prices above support levels.

(MORE)

CONSERVATION, NUTRITION TEAM-MATES IN LOUISIANA - Soil erosion and depletion, which cause lack of proper food values in many of the crops grown in his State, are a vital concern of D. L. Pearce, chairman of the agricultural committee of the Louisiana House of Representatives. People are no stronger, physically and mentally, than the soils which produce their food, he asserts in an article in the March issue of Farm and Ranch Magazine.

Mr. Pearce's own farming operations at Oak Grove, Louisiana, bear out his assertations that the soil conservation measures will control soil depletion. On the two farms which he operates, he has limed and spread phosphate whenever soil tests showed these elements lacking, and has added nitrogen by growing legume crops. The effects of the conservation methods show up in last year's average yields of cash crops. Cotton made 27 bales on 25 acres. Corn made about 25 bushels to the acre. Sweet potatoes averaged 226 bushels an acre; Irish potatoes 55 sacks; oats 45 bushels; and hay yields around 2 tons to the acre.

"Our soils, now that we handle them the right way, produce well," says Pearce. "I give a lot of the credit for the prosperity we are enjoying to the soil-improvement work that has gone into this farm."

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FARM NEWS SHORTS

"It comes with something of a shock to learn how fast the newly-improved varieties of crops add to the debit side of the fertility ledger unless corrective measures are taken," reports the Kansas City Weekly Star.

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Milk production per cow in the U. S. during February was at the highest volume on record for the month. Because of fewer cows, however, total production was slightly below the peak Februarys of 1944 and 1945.

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National egg production during February was 4 percent less than in February 1946, but 31 percent above the 1936-45 average.

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For the sixth successive year, the 1947 early spring lamb crop will be smaller than the previous year, with a 7 percent drop noted from 1946 levels, USDA reports.

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New Mexico

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

3/28/47
No. 235

FARM PROGRAM NEWS

ACP SIGN-UP DEADLINE
SET FOR FIRST OF MAY - May 1 will be the last day _____ County farmers and ranchers can sign up to cooperate in the 1947 Agricultural Conservation Program, _____, Chairman of the County ACA Committee, said today. While _____ farmers have already filed their farm plans at the county office, _____ pointed out that there are still _____ who may be disappointed later because they didn't get theirs filed on time.

Program practices must be approved by the Committee before they are carried out, which is an important reason the county committee would like to complete all sign-ups as early as possible. Program funds will not be available to assist farmers and ranchers with the cost of their practices if prior approval is not given by the county ACA committees.

Practices which qualify for payment must contribute to conservation on the farm and fit into the over-all conservation program of the county. Each county receives an allotment for conservation work, and the amount of work for which payment can be made is limited by the size of the county budget. The system of operators declaring their intentions to carry out practices under the program in plan sheets each year makes possible a fair allocation of the funds available for conservation.

ACP practices being emphasized in 1947 in _____ County include:
(List practices being stressed and any other local information applicable.)

(MORE)

HOUSEWIVES, OTHERS
ASKED TO USE MORE EGGS - All-out campaign is underway in New Mexico to help farmers find markets for shell eggs now seasonally abundant, according to C. V. Hemphill, State Director, USDA's Production and Marketing Administration.

Housewives, operators of hotels, restaurants, cafeterias and other eating places where foods are prepared daily are asked to cooperate in the campaign by serving eggs often, he said. A high quality food, they are important to the diet throughout the year and generous use during the next few weeks will provide farmers with ready markets for a perishable product, he said.

Production is running above that of last year and the seasonal peak is not expected for several days. Consumers throughout the state can help solve this burdensome supply problem by using eggs generously while they are abundant, the PMA official explained.

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FERTILIZER SUPPLY AIDED
BY RAPID CAR HANDLING - A short supply of railroad cars will be one of the limiting factors in the even distribution of superphosphate under the Agricultural Conservation Program this year. Railroads are unable to obtain new equipment to replace old rolling stock which is wearing out.

One of the principal problems of the railroads in furnishing cars to ship conservation materials is unnecessary delay in unloading and releasing cars. So the New Mexico Committee of the Production and Marketing Administration is encouraging contractors, association truckers, dealers, and warehousemen to unload and release cars on the day of arrival, if possible. County and state offices are also working closely with local railroad representatives in keeping them informed of their day-to-day requirements.

(MORE)

U. S. FARMERS PLAN
LARGE 1947 ACREAGE - Optimistic about the season's prospects in most areas, farmers intend to plant a slightly larger crop acreage in 1947 than during the past 2 years, the Department of Agriculture's annual "farm intentions" report shows. Acreage now planned for principal crops may approach 358 million acres, about 2.3 million acres more than last year's and 7.4 million acres below the wartime peak of 1944.

Shifts between crops are due largely to the near-record acreage of winter wheat sown last fall, which is still doing well, and to the demand for oil crops — flaxseed and soybeans. These tend to limit the acreage available for sorghums, corn, oats, and some others. Sugar beets, beans, and peas are replacing potatoes in many competing areas. Feed grains will be grown on 4.4 million acres less than in 1946, but this drop is largely offset by the intended acreage in winter wheat acreage.

Intended acreages of oilseeds show a big increase over last year. Soybeans grown alone are expected to increase 6 percent and flaxseed 70 percent, although acreages of both crops are below goals. But peanuts grown alone may fall off 2.6 percent.

Planted acreages intended for 1947 include: Corn, 87,599,000; all spring wheat, 19,280,000; oats, 46,620,000; barley, 11,714,000; flaxseed, 4,488,000; rice, 1,619,000; sorghums, 13,109,000; potatoes, 2,310,000; dry edible beans, 1,880,000; soybeans harvested, 12,213,000; peanuts, 3,847,000; sugar beets, 993,000 acres.

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COMMITTEEMEN GIVE TIME
TO SIGN UP NEIGHBORS - Community Triple-A committeemen in at least one Illinois county are helping the county committeemen complete sign-ups in the 1947 Agricultural Conservation Program, even though no funds are available to pay for the time spent in this service.

Participation in the 1946 program included well over 3½ million farm operators and owners. More than 15,000 New Mexico farmers took part in the 1946 program.

(MORE)

WHEAT CERTIFICATES DATED
MARCH 31 TO END PROGRAM - Farmers who did not redeem certificates for wheat sold under the 1946 emergency wheat program before March 31 will be paid the prevailing local market price for wheat on that date.

The certificates were issued in the spring and summer of 1946 to speed the movement of wheat abroad. This action accelerated the movement of wheat off farms and permitted farmers to select any date from that time until March 31, 1947, as the date on which the purchase price might be determined. The County Agricultural Conservation office in _____ handled these certificates for farmers. As a result of the drive conducted last spring by ACP committeemen, 75,508,710 bushels of wheat and 33,500,982 bushels of corn were sold off U. S. farms for shipment to the starving in war devastated areas overseas.

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FINANCING PLANNED FOR
HOOF-MOUTH ERADICATION - Recommendations regarding the financing of a joint campaign against foot-and-mouth disease have been agreed upon by Mexican and United States officials. The next step is transmittal of appropriate proposals for action by Congress.

The recommendations include an early U. S. contribution to the campaign to $9 million - $1.5 million for equipment, supplies, and personnel; and $7.5 million for indemnities on cattle slaughtered. An increased rate of expenditure by the U. S. during the fiscal year starting July 1 is proposed if a fully effective program of eradication is to be carried on.

Mexico's total contribution up to June 30 will be $9,350,000 - $7.6 million for services, equipment, supplies, and personnel; and $1,750,000 for indemnities to be paid for slaughter of hogs, sheep, and goats. Mexico hopes to continue its expenditure at about the same rate after July 1 but does not expect to be able to increase them.

(MORE)

FARM NEWS SHORTS

About 23,000 foreign workers were employed on the Nation's farms in early March under the Department of Agriculture's labor program. Nearly 16,000 of the laborers were from Mexico and another 6,000 were Jamaicans and Bahamians.

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The 1947 per capita supply of food for the world is 7 or 8 percent below prewar supplies, because of increase in population.

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Nutritionally the populations in Austria, Italy, France, and Belgium are better off than a year ago. In the United Kingdom, however, food consumption is 5 to 10 percent less than it was last year or during the war.

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Germany will need from 100 million to 150 million bushels of cereals a year to replace supplies used to come from Eastern German areas now incorporated into Poland or occupied by Russia.

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A strong demand and an urgent need for food supplies from the United States will continue for the next year, particularly for cereals, fats and oils.

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Widespread 'underfeeding' is taking its toll in Europe. It is reflected in the TB death rate - now at least twice the prewar level - and in the rise in infant mortality, report UNRRA nutritionists.

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Three major famines in Europe - in Greece, Yugoslavia, and Austria - have been averted by UNRRA foods. Enough grain alone has been shipped to Europe to make almost 12 billion loaves of bread of a pound each.

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Boys of 14 in Athens now average 3 inches shorter than those of the same age 4 years ago, as a result of underfeeding.

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